

Message Text

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ACTION EPA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 DLOS-09 AID-05
CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08
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DEPT PASS EPA FOR SHOSTAL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, SENV, TOCY, UR, US
SUBJECT: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: SIXTH JCM FOLLOW-UP--
TOXIC SUBSTANCES, ENVIRONMENTAL EXHIBIT, CLIMATE

REF: (A) STATE 288134, (B) GENEVA 12022, (C) STATE 281111

1. SCICOUNS MET DECEMBER 16 WITH YURIY IZRAEL', CHIEF OF HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SERVICES FOR REVIEW OF THE SIXTH JCM. IZRAEL' EXPRESSED WARM PERSONAL THANKS TO EPA ADMINISTRATOR COSTLE FOR RECEPTION ACCORDED SOVIET DELEGATION IN US. IZRAEL' ALSO EXPRESSED HIGH SATISFACTION WITH THE SUBSTANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OF RECENT JCM. (EMBASSY POUCHING EPA FOR SHOSTAL LETTER FOR COSTLE FROM IZRAEL' EXPRESSING THANKS, REGISTRY NUMBER 3651094).

2. IZRAEL' MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON ITEMS REPORTED REFTTEL A RAISED BY US DURING JCM OR SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS IN WASHINGTON.

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(A) ENVIRONMENTAL EXHIBIT - IZRAEL' NOTED THAT HYDROMET WILL BE ORGANIZING A MAJOR COMMERCIAL EXHIBIT IN MOSCOW ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DURING THE SUMMER OF 1979. HYDROMET IN PRINCIPLE WOULD BE PLEASED TO ASSIST IN ORGANIZING A TOURING US ENVIRONMENT EXHIBIT IN 1979. HOWEVER, HYDROMET WOULD BE HARD PRESSED TO BE INVOLVED IN BOTH

EXHIBITS SIMULTANEOUSLY.

ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE FURTHER DETAILS ON THE TIMING AND NATURE OF THE US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION EXHIBIT RAISED BY COSTLE WITH IZRAEL' DURING JCM.

(B) TOXIC SUBSTANCES - IN RESPONSE TO SCICOUNS QUERY, IZRAEL' NOTED THAT SOVIETS WOULD BE PLEASED TO ADD SPECIFIC PROJECTS ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES TO ALREADY EXISTING WORKING GROUPS IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT. IZRAEL' ADDED THAT SOVIETS WOULD AWAIT MORE SPECIFIC US PROPOSALS BEFORE CONSIDERING BROADER COOPERATION IN TOXIC SUBSTANCES OUTSIDE THE ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT ITSELF.

(C) CLIMATE - IZRAEL' NOTED HIS SATISFACTION WITH BILATERAL COOPERATION ON CLIMATE WITHIN THE CLIMATE WORKING GROUP (02.08), IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT. WITH REGARD TO BROADENING COOPERATION, IZRAEL' NOTED THAT BOTH THE US AND THE USSR ARE PLANNING FOR THE 1979 WMO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE. IZRAEL' FORESAW BROAD OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER COOPERATION BOTH BILATERALLY AND MULTILATERALLY, NOTHING THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

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(1) ORGANIZATION OF WORLDWIDE CLIMATE MONITORING AND DATA PROCESSING NETWORK, (2) MODELING AND PREDICTION OF CLIMATOLOGICAL CHANGE, (3) THE IMPACT OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE, AND (4) THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE ON HUMAN ACTIVITIES. IZRAEL' NOTED THAT BOTH METEROLOGICAL DATA AND MODELS ARE OF PRIME IMPORTANCE AND THEREFORE COOPERATION ON THE FIRST TWO TOPICS HE ENUMERATED WOULD HAVE PRECEDENCE OVER LATTER TWO TOPICS.

COMMENT: DURING THE COURSE OF DISCUSSION ON THIS TOPIC IZRAEL' RETURNED REPEATEDLY TO EXPANSION OF BILATERAL ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS. THE CLEAR IMPRESSION GIVEN WAS THAT IZRAEL' WOULD BE LOATHE TO INITIATE A NEW BILATERAL AGREEMENT ON CLIMATE (SEE PARA THREE REFTEL A). END COMMENT.
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